

Happenings

Halloween volksmarch

The Baumholder Bahnbrechers Volksmarching Club sponsors a volksmarch on Halloween weekend, Oct. 30 and 31 with start times from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. All participants must be done walking by 5 p.m. The start and finish is at Baumholder's Bruhl Halle.

Distances include 5, 10 and 20 kilometer routes. The 5 and 10 kilometer routes are stroller friendly.

Registration fee is €1.50 and includes an IVV stamp. There is no award this year. Registration is available prior to beginning the march but those with large groups who wish to register in advance may do so by paying start fees at Kreissparkasse Baumholder. For details call Charles A. Peterson at civ (06782) 109-472, or send an email to MrIVV@msn.com.

Pets must be kept on a leash while walking. Prepaid start cards not picked up are void, as registration fee is not refundable. Discarding trash or refuse along the route is prohibited and smoking in the forest is strictly forbidden. Remember that violators are subject to fines. The march will be conducted regardless of weather conditions.

Players, coaches

The womens' community level basketball league needs players. Contact the Baumholder Sports Office at mil 485-6671/7176 for details.

Wrestling and boxing coaches are needed. Call the Sports Office at mil 485-6671/7176 for details.

Range controllers

The Baumholder Liaison Detachment (Range Control) seeks noncommissioned officers to join the detachment. Soldiers must be in the grade of E-6, branch qualified, able to speak, understand and read German and must hold a 19K or 11 series Military Occupational Specialty. Call mil 485-6723.

Training closes

The 7th Army Training Command Regional Training Support Center-Baumholder Visual Information Support Branch will be closed for inventory Dec. 7-9. The photo studio and illustrator section will be open.

BCSC luncheon

The Baumholder Community Service Club holds its next luncheon Nov. 17 at the Rheinlander Club. The theme is Crystal Bingo, and only members of the BCSC are invited to the luncheon. Memberships

may be purchased at the door for \$15. Make luncheon and child care reservations at reservebcsc@yahoo.com or call civ (06782) 887 135.

Youth Services October events

●Oct. 29, Halloween dance at the Teen Café for ninth through 12th grade students from 7—11 p.m.

●Oct. 30, masquerade ball at the Landstuhl Teen Center for ninth through 12th grade students from 7-11 p.m.

●Oct. 30, lock-in at the Underground for sixth through eighth grade students from 8 p.m. to 8 a.m.

All participants must be registered with CYS and a signed permission slip must be turned in one week prior to each trip or event.

For more information contact your local youth center or Youth Services at mil 485-7276.

Volunteer to help

Youth Services is looking for volunteers, youth and adults, to assist with special interest clubs and sporting or recreational events. For more information contact your local youth center or visit Baumholder's youth web site at www.baumholder.army.mil/youthsite/html/ys.htm

Professional help

Professional counselors are here to provide support and guidance. If you are dealing with conflict, worry, or difficulty, in or outside the home, take the time to talk to someone about it. Confidential family/life coaches can meet with you, when and where you are most comfortable.

Call Army Community Services at mil 485-8188 or civ (06783)-8188 to schedule a meeting.

Rolling Hills Athletic Club

●Step Aerobics
Monday, Wednesday, Friday 7-8 p.m.

●Step/Toning Aerobics
Tuesday and Thursday 9:15-10:15 a.m.

●Water Aerobics
Tuesday and Thursday 9:15-10:15 a.m./6:30-7:30 p.m.

●Ballet (CYS)
Monday-Thursday 3:30-5:30 p.m.

●Family Dollar Nights
Fridays

●Swimming Pool
5-8 p.m.



Photo by LeAnne MacAllister

Lincoln's first goal

Lincoln Jones, number 17, boots his first goal into the net during the first coed soccer game for five- and six-year-olds. Seven teams in this age bracket play a total of eight games for fun; scores are not kept. Still, as Jones could tell you, part of the fun is getting the ball in the goal.

Schools ready for Super Six

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

222nd Base Support Battalion
Public Affairs Office

Baumholder is ready to host the annual European Super Six high school football championship Nov. 6 on Minick Field.

This will be the second year Baumholder hosts the Super Bowl of high school football in Europe. The top six high school football teams in Europe clash for a shot at the championship title, offering fans a full day of gridiron action.

By combining Division I, II, and III games in a single, large event, Department of Defense Dependents Schools-Europe officials hope to create a big game atmosphere that will be a rewarding experience for athletes, coaches and parents.

The day begins with Division III finalists playing at 1 p.m. Division II plays at 4 p.m. and Division I finalists face off at 7 p.m.

Teams fall under Divisions I, II, or III depending on the school enrollment. Being a school with a small number of students, Baumholder falls under Division III.

The semifinals will be played Oct. 30. "We're going to have quite an influx of people in the community the day before, as at least 400 players will be arriving," said Gene Winfree, 222nd Base Support Battalion schools officer.

"Given that the Soldiers of the 1st Armored Division have returned from their 15-month deployment, we are expecting twice the fan participation, if not more, than last year," he said. The event drew more than 2,000 spectators last year.

Participation by NFL officials and Frankfurt Galaxy cheerleaders are also in the works.

"Baumholder was chosen primarily because of the outstanding facility and force protection that it offers," said Dom Calabria,

Baumholder American High School principal.

Like last year security and safety will receive top priority. There will be security checks upon entrance to the field. Coolers, alcohol and glass bottles will not be permitted in the stands. "Our Pond's guards personnel will search packages and backpacks at the entrance to the field," said Bianca Bowen, 222nd BSBS-2.

Food and beverages will be available at the game, so guests need not go hungry or thirsty throughout the day. To help feed the influx of people the Strike Zone snack bar in the Strikers Bowling Center will be available for fans throughout the day. Guests can also enjoy a game or two of bowling while waiting for the next game to start on Minick Field. The Army and Air Force Exchange Service will also have its food court facilities available throughout the championships.

Education update

Baumholder's Adult Education Program offers Conversational German I and Conversational German II. Registration fee is \$40. Call Bill Badger at mil 485-8891 for more information.

The University of Maryland is now registering for the upcoming college term at Baumholder. A variety of courses are being offered including Human Anatomy and

Physiology I, Intro to Philosophy, Personality Theories and Marketing Principles.

Call Deirdre Martin or Stacie Welsh at mil 485-6178 for more information.

Central Texas College is registering for the following classes: Introduction to Automotive Technology, Crime in America, Child Abuse, Prevention and Investiga-

tion, and Emergency Medical Technician-Basic. Register now at the Baumholder Education Center.

The Electronic Army University (eArmyU) is now available to active-duty Soldiers in Baumholder. Briefings on the program are held at the Baumholder Education Center each Thursday at 3:30 p.m.

Call mil 485-6487 for more information.

Students awarded freedom scholarships



Kadeja Gaines



Ryan Scott Morton

Ryan Scott Morton and Kadeja Gaines have each been awarded \$1,000 Presidential Freedom Scholarships from the Corporation for National and Community Service and Boys and Girls Clubs of America. They were honored for their outstanding commitment to public service.

"The Presidential Freedom Scholarships are designed to help the communities recognize the outstanding service-related achievements of their young people, while encouraging others to get involved in service and volunteering," said David Eisner of the Corporation for

National and Community Service. "Community service is an integral part of what it means to be an American citizen, and the Presidential Freedom Scholarship program is an excellent way to recognize young adults who are exercising their duty with distinction. We are proud to be able to offer these scholarships, which build community partnerships."

Ryan, the son of Sgt. 1st Class Scott Morton, 47th Forward Support Battalion, and Melissa Schaffner of Baumholder's Army Community Service is a freshman at North Georgia College and State

University.

Kadeja, the daughter of Air Force Master Sgt. Dennis Gaines, Air Force North, and Teresa Gaines, formerly of Baumholder ACS, moved with her family to Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

The corporation for National and Community Service provides recipients with a \$500 scholarship which is paired with another scholarship of \$500 or more from a local Boys and Girls Club. More than 31,000 scholarships have been awarded since the program's inception.

A's B'oos C's of Halloween or, a ghost story

By **LeAnne MacAllister**
222nd Base Support Battalion
Public Affairs Office

The Celtic festival of Samhain was celebrated on Nov. 1, as a precursor to Halloween, starting around the 1st century B.C. The event marked the end of the Celtic calendar year and the beginning of winter.

The Celts believed on Samhain's eve the border between the worlds of the living and the dead was blurred.

The celebration of Samhain began on Oct. 31 with bonfires and sacrifices to their deities. Celts wore costumes, attempted to tell each others' fortunes and re-lit hearth fires for protection.

By the 1st century A.D., Romans moved into Celtic territories of northern France, Great Britain and Ireland. Eventually two Roman festivals were combined with Samhain — Feralia, a day in late October when the Romans traditionally commemorated the passing of the dead, and Pomona Day, in honor of the Roman goddess of

fruit and trees. Pomona, represented by an apple, is often associated with the tradition of bobbing for apples.

In the seventh century Pope Boniface IV declared Nov. 1 as the church-sanctioned holiday of All Saints' Day to honor saints and martyrs. Eventually the day was also called All-hallows or All-hallowmas, which comes from Middle English Alholowmesse meaning All Saints' Day. The night before was known as All-hallows Eve which eventually became Halloween.

Around 1000 A.D. the Catholic church designated Nov. 2 as All Souls' Day to honor the dead. The celebration incorporated the other customs such as bonfires, parades and costumes — including those of saints, angels and demons — and evolved into Hollowmas.

European immigrants brought Halloween customs with them to the United States. Although not celebrated much in the northeastern United States because of religious differences, Halloween was

common in Maryland and the southern states. European ethnic groups, along with Native Americans, interwove their cultural practices and a distinct American Halloween tradition emerged.

The first celebrations were public events celebrating harvest season. Communities came together to tell ghost stories and fortunes, to sing and dance. The association between mischief-making and Halloween evolved at this time.

American national recognition of the holiday came in the late 1800s with the influx of Irish immigrants who fled from the potato famine. Based in an Irish and English tradition, these new Americans began to go door to door in costumes asking for money or food, including "soul cakes," a practice that eventually became today's "trick-or-treat" tradition.

The custom of Jack-o-Lanterns was also imported from Irish folklore. A famous tale tells the story of a man named Jack tricking Satan into climbing a tree. He marked the

tree with a cross so the devil couldn't come down. Jack made Satan promise he would never tempt him again before allowing him to leave the tree. Jack's antics got him banned from Heaven, but Hell wouldn't take him either. Stuck in the middle, he was given a light in a hollowed turnip to survive the darkness. Americans replaced the turnip with the more plentiful pumpkins to make their Jack-o-Lanterns.

The 20th century trend to remove anything grotesque or spiritual from the celebrations, paired with the push toward community and neighborly parties for children and adults, changed Halloween into the celebration observed today. Though some of the superstitions remain, the religious undertones for the most part have been erased. It is now America's second largest commercial holiday with an estimated \$6.9 billion spent annually.

Now the holiday is even celebrated among the German popula-

tion. In Baumholder, German residents have seen a rise in the celebration in the last 15 years with some children even going door to door in quest of sweets on Halloween.

Halloween in and around Baumholder

Various organizations have come together to provide the Baumholder Military Community options in celebrating Halloween.

● Halloween Fun at Kusel Pool: Fri., Oct. 29th

● Child and Youth Services Halloween Carnival: Sat., Oct. 30 — 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Rheinlander Convention Center.

● Teen Masquerade Ball: Sat., Oct. 30th — 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. Landstuhl Teen Center

● Warner Brothers Halloween Trip: Sat., Oct. 30th — call outdoor recreation at 485-6115 for more information.

● Post Trick or Treat Hours: Sat., Oct. 30th — 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Post wide event.

● City of Baumholder Volksmarch: Oct. 30th and 31st



State of the art playground opens at Wetzel CDC

By **Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava**

222nd Base Support Battalion
Public Affairs Office

The Wetzel Child Development Center playground officially opens Oct. 28 after a \$571,000 fixup.

The old playground, constructed mostly of wood, had been in place since the center was built some 15 years ago. "With all the rain and snow that we get here, the playground eventually began to rot and became unusable," said Jacqueline Cruz, Wetzel CDC director.

Wooden shades, swings and benches were removed from the infant playground. The same items plus a playhouse, benches and sand box were also removed from the toddler playground. The preschool/kindergarten playground saw the removal of wooden shades, swings, playhouse, climbing apparatus, benches and sandbox.

During the renovation Wetzel CDC patrons and employees took their play periods on the road. "We partnered with and walked to Wetzel Elementary School, Wetzel School-Age Services and Rolling Hills

Campground to use their play facilities," said Cruz.

The playground is now equipped with safe, brand new equipment in all three areas.

Additions to the infant playground include the infant/toddler activity center which includes a custom mirror, beads, peek-a-boo panel, custom sound cylinder, custom color panel, shape spinner and bubble. Also added to the infant playground were a portable play tunnel, kid stackers, walk through tunnel, single post canopy shade, trash can and administrative cabi-

nets.

The toddler playground has numerous additions including a canopy shade, water table, in-ground spigot, swing, sand house trek deck, turning circle/pole, arch bridge, storage bench, splash counter, art easel, fun tables, toddler structure, storage shed, trash can and administrative cabinets.

The preschool/kindergarten playground is also equipped with new play things including a new gas pump panel and sign, trike arch bridge, trike parking sign, bongo panel, art/picnic tables, village fa-

cade, trike path, flat bridge, in-ground water spigot, playhouse, talk tube system, water table trough, sand house, no trikes sign, art easel, bridge with vertical picket rails, swings, weather station, admin cabinets, trash can, and storage shed.

The project was given a thorough inspection by officials from the Army Corps of Engineers and other organizations giving the renovated facility the green light for opening.

"We are delighted that we now have safe, state of the art play equipment for the children," said Cruz.

Wounded Soldiers return, are honored

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava
222nd Base Support Battalion Public
Affairs Office

Three Soldiers from 4th Battalion, 27th Field Artillery Regiment, wounded while serving in Iraq were honored Oct. 6 during a battalion formation near Baumholder's Fallen Soldier Memorial.

Sgt. 1st Class Protray D. Woods and Staff Sgt. Hilbert E. Ceasar of Battery C, 4-27th FA, were on patrol southwest of Baghdad on April 18 when a remotely operated Improvised Explosive Device detonated next to their howitzer. Woods, who lost his right arm as a result of the incident, was promoted to sergeant first class during the ceremony.

Ceasar was also seriously injured and is undergoing treatment for his injuries.

On May 14 the camp where Spc. Patrick C. Wickens was assigned came under attack. Wickens, a member of Service Battery, 4-27th FA, received leg injuries when a mortar round exploded near him.

After both incidents members of the 31st Combat Hospital responded immediately to treat the injured. "The excellent treatment they received on the scene and thereafter from the 31st CHS is probably the reason all three are alive today," said Capt. Joey Errington, 4-27th FA battalion S-1.

"This is a very special day for us because



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

Sgt. 1st Class Protray D. Woods receives a set of new chevrons from 1st Sgt. Christopher Hanson of D Battery, 1st Battalion, 94th Field Artillery Regiment. Hanson is a former member of 4th Battalion, 27th Field Artillery Regiment and worked with "Gunny" Woods.

we're here to honor three of our great Soldiers who are recovering from their serious injuries they suffered while serving in Iraq," said Lt. Col. Brian McKiernan, 4-27th FA commander.

As Woods' mother and sister listened, McKiernan gave his account of both inci-

dents and how they impacted him personally.

"There are images that I will carry with me forever after our experiences in Iraq. One of these images is of Sgt. 1st Class Woods and Staff Sgt. Ceasar shortly after the accident," said McKiernan. "As I approached the back

of their vehicle and I saw our medics tending to their needs, I was struck by what I saw. And I would not realize the full extent of their needs for some time because I saw two sergeants whose only concern was for the welfare of their Soldiers — two sergeants who insisted on trying to get up and go to aid of their fallen soldiers without any regard to their own injuries."

"The other image that stays in my mind is when Command Sgt. Maj. Kelly and I visited the combat support hospital shortly after Spc. Wickens was injured. We arrived at the trauma room as he was being prepared for surgery. As we approached his bedside he looked up at the sergeant major and I and he said 'sir I'm sorry, sergeant major I'm sorry,' as if somehow he'd screwed up.

"And then the next words out of his mouth were 'Is specialist Wilcox okay?'"

"These men were more concerned about their comrades than their own fate. These images will stay with me forever because they are emblematic of the quality and the character of our men and women in uniform. They are selfless, committed, courageous and compassionate. They represent what is absolutely the best about our great nation. I am humbled by their exploits every day," he said.

The ceremony ended with a resounding "Iron Thunder" cry from all assembled.

Phantom Regiment re-creates history

Story and photos
by LeAnne MacAllister
222nd Base Support Battalion Public
Affairs Office

Sixty years ago 1st Armored Division Soldiers assembled on the Italian front to break the Gothic Line near the small town of Castellaccio, Italy. World War II was being fought in many countries on multiple continents, though Italy's campaign was not in the historical limelight.

Realizing that it may be extremely difficult for modern warriors to conceive of the challenges faced by their World War II compatriots, Command Sgt. Maj. Joseph Hall, 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry, decided to re-create the drama of the 1944 battle. Upon returning from Iraq he invited members of the Baumholder community to participate in a hands-on demonstration.

The Phantom Regiment, a private organization recognized by U.S. Army Europe and led locally by Hall, set out to bring the historical military drama to life Oct. 8-10 at Baumholder's Military Police Field.

American and German historical clubs were invited to take part with groups traveling from all over Germany to attend. In one case, a German father and his two sons from Leipzig made the eight hour journey to participate.

"I'm here because there isn't another event like this in Germany. Usually they're in Holland, Belgium or France," said Jens Termath, an avid World War II paraphernalia collector. "It's good to see one here."

Karl Kleine, age 71, from Waldorf, said he was also appreciative of the endeavor. Kleine, a retired German Soldier, was 12 years old when World War II ended. He worked for the

U.S. exchange service for many years and has been collecting World War II items for over 40 years. Dressed as a member of the Allied Forces, Kleine was eager to share his stories about German-American relations since the war.

The 2004 re-enactment of the defense of Castellaccio is the first event of this magnitude held in Baumholder. Americans and Germans, Soldiers, history buffs and collectors all came together to make it possible.

"The idea of living history is to create a museum without glass. The public can come through and see the equipment used back then, see how the Soldiers lived and gain a better understanding," said Hall.

Beginning in June of 1944, 45 1st AD units rotated between rest and front-line duty. Due to terrain restrictions, many of the tankers parked their vehicles and defended the line as infantrymen. Hall aimed to make this depiction as accurate as possible.

A Sherman tank, usually housed in front of the 222nd Base Support Battalion Headquarters and the only operational tank of its kind in USAREUR was driven to the re-enactment site. It was parked along the edges of the battlefield next to the Allied camp. It gave the entire event an even more realistic appearance, and served as an attraction for visitors.

Other World War II-era vehicles and machines were brought out by collectors and re-enactors. A 1942 German Kubelwagon, similar to an American Jeep, was used at one of the Axis campsites. Other military vehicles, such as the Allied M-1943 command post, were not originally intended to be used as camping vehicles but turned into shelter from the rain for the duration of the three-day camp.

The weekend weather did not deter the participants from partaking in the re-enactment but it altered some of the plans.

Olaf Braemer, a retired German army reserve member who

lives near Cologne, said, "I tried to sleep in the foxhole I spent all afternoon digging, but it was too uncomfortable and cold. It's hard to imagine what they went through."

"When people come see this I want them to see that the Germans and the Italians who fought were just like us; all soldiers were cold, hungry and not necessarily understanding their cause for the fight.

But they were doing their best for their country just as we were—they were working to hold their line, and we were doing our best to break through—even though the spotlight wasn't on the Soldiers fighting in Italy."

Hall said he hopes 1st AD Soldiers gain an awareness of their history and understand the meaning behind the streamers they carry.



Christian Gorgs, a German member of the Living History group and Allied re-enactor, takes his turn on duty in a fox hole dug by the participants for the battle re-enactment.



At left, Pfc. Derrall Escobar and Spc. Johnathan Parker of the 1st Battalion, 35th Armor Regiment load an M-53 High Explosive round into a M-1 81mm mortar. Above, Command Sgt. Major Joseph Hall of the 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment leaves tent city behind him to staff the M-1943 Command Post used by the Allied Forces in the World War II Italian Campaign.

